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CLAIMS

1. A tracheostomy device characterized by its attractive aesthetic appearance and low profile adapted to be mounted on a tracheostomy pipe outer end, in combination, a low profile housing mounted upon the pipe outer end having an inlet port in communication with a check valve, a check valve and an outlet port in communication with said check valve and the pipe outer end, and a decorative cover mounted upon the housing substantially enclosing said housing and giving said housing the appearance of neck jewelry.

2. A tracheostomy device as in claim 1, said housing being removably attached to the pipe outer end.

3. A tracheostomy device as in claim 1, said housing having an outer threaded periphery, said decorative cover being threaded upon said housing threaded periphery.

4. A tracheostomy device as in claim 1, said check valve comprising a substantially flat flexible element.

5. A tracheostomy device as in claim 4, said check valve comprising a substantially flat flap flexible element hinged to said housing.

6. A tracheostomy device as in claim 4, said housing having a central axis, said check valve element having an axis parallel to said housing central axis and offset with respect thereto.

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7. A tracheostomy device as in claim 1, a decorative flexible necklace attached to the pipe outer and adapted to encircle the wearer's neck.

8. A tracheostomy device as in claim 7, said necklace having ends, a support mounted upon the pipe outer end, the support having ends, a necklace end being affixed to a support end.

9. A tracheostomy device characterized by its attractive appearance and low profile adapted to be mounted on a tracheostomy pipe having an outer end having an opening, a support mounted upon the pipe outer end, the support having spaced connections, in combination, a low profile housing mounted upon the pipe outer end having an inlet port in communication with the atmosphere and a check valve, a check valve, and an outlet port in communication with said check valve and the pipe outer end, a flexible, aesthetically and attractive necklace having ends, said necklace being attached to the support, and a decorative cover mounted upon said housing substantially enclosing said housing and giving said housing the appearance of neck jewelry.

10. A tracheostomy device as in claim 9, at least one necklace end being removably attached to a support connection.

11. A tracheostomy device as in claim 8, said check valve comprising a seat and a substantially flat valve element cooperative with said seat to close the check valve.

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12. A tracheostomy device as in claim 8, said housing having a circular threaded periphery, said decorative cover having an internally threaded lip cooperating with said housing periphery threads and a base extending between said lip.

13. A tracheostomy device as in claim 11, said base having an outer surface and decorations defined on said base outer surface.

14. A tracheostomy device as in claim 9, the visible dimension of said valve housing being approximately the same as the diameter of the pipe opening.